

grave suspicions are suggested that the practice of breaking open and reading the letters, is a common practice under the present administration of the Post Office Department. General, who was appointed for peculiar reasons, and maintains a peculiar relation to the Know-Nothings, whose correspondence, it is said, is chiefly rifled by the Post Office spies.

When James Campbell was elevated to the position he now occupies, we predicted that the letters of the Post Office Department would be filled with Jesuit spies, and used for the purpose of advancing the interests and furthering the designs of the Romish hierarchy. The Post Office Department was the one, above all others, that the Janitors wanted control of. And while James Campbell is the mere automaton of the Pope, the Pope of Rome himself is virtually the Postmaster General of the United States, and knows more of the official dealings of our government than the mass of the American people!

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1854.

VEPARIAN ELLIS, Editor.
R. M. HEATH, Assistant.

"Against the invidious wiles of foreign influence—I conjure you to believe me, fellow-citizens—the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake; since history and experience prove, that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of a republican government."—Washington.

"I hope we may find some means, in future, of shielding ourselves from foreign influence, political, commercial, or in whatever form it may be attempted. I can scarcely withhold myself from intimating in the wish of Silas Dean—that there were an ocean of fire between this and the old world."—Jefferson.

Agents for the "American Organ."

JOHN T. AUBLEY, St. Annapolis street, two doors from King street, Alexandria, Virginia.
ALFRED LEWIS, 146 Baltimore street, Baltimore, Maryland.

JOHN P. HILTON is our agent for Cincinnati and other cities in the west.
Y. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, is the only authorized agent for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the rates required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His offices are—Boston, Scollay's Building; New York, Tribune Building; Philadelphia, northwest corner Third and Chestnut sts. The "American Organ" will be found for sale at Adams & Arrol, No. 22 Broadway street, New York. A. D. CHALONER, Burlington, (N. J.), is agent for the "American Organ" for the State of New Jersey. M. J. BURNS, Portsmouth, Virginia.
W. F. FARNS, Frederickburg, Va.
J. C. MORGAN, New Orleans.

Subscribers who do not receive their papers will please leave their names and address at the office.

All advertisements for the "Organ" should be handed into the office before twelve o'clock, M., of the day of publication.

American Convention in Cincinnati.

"A private letter gives some amusing particulars of the gathering of the so-called Know-Nothings at Cincinnati. The first fact that appears is the presence of a number of Whig leaders. Ullman, of New York; Conrad, of Philadelphia; Segar, of Richmond; Hayner, of North Carolina; Davis, of Kentucky, are among the list. No prominent Democrat is on the ground. How full of significance is this! The Whigs, finding that number of Democrats have been entrapped into these Know-Nothing lodges, now come forth to take charge of an army already recruited to their hands, to divide the offices among themselves, and to carry out the measures they cannot consummate alone. That such an organization can last is impossible. The moment these Whig leaders are shown to be at its head, thousands will abandon it, and return to their former friends and to their old beliefs. This will another evidence be furnished to the world that there is but one enduring and indestructible organization in this country, and that is the Democratic party."—Washington Union.

Very amusing, no doubt, are the particulars received by the Union by a private letter from Cincinnati! Still more amusing will be the final official report of their proceedings, if any private hand should indite them for the Union. So, then, there are none but Whigs in Cincinnati, in the convention, as a private letter informs the sapient concocter of this pretended information!

Has the editor of the Washington Union, a la Secord, in New York, contrived to get friends smuggled into the convention as delegates, to watch and report, and, if possible, to influence its action? Has some member of that convention, just risen from a perusal of the Union's Know-Nothing doctrines, as given in its columns, to the world on the 17th day of October last, despatched the astounding news to the Union above quoted? And, "no prominent Democrat is on the ground!" Then the Union's correspondent has ubiquity and omniscience! He can be at every hotel and boarding-house in Cincinnati at the same time, know all the various members of that convention, numbering some hundreds, and know each man's political complexion!

"Where's Barnum?" He wants a few such curiosities as the editors and correspondents of the Union, and, as the administration has no further use for them, we would advise a sale to the renowned procurer of humbugs!

If the Union had prepared itself with such reliable correspondents during the elections held in October and November, we should have seen published in its columns the following election news, to wit:

"INDIANAPOLIS, —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: The elections in this State have gone for somebody—not known who. No Democrats went to the polls."

"COLUMBUS, OHIO, —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Eighty thousand majority against the administration—don't know what party wins. No Democrats went to the polls."

"HARRISBURG, PA., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Pollock is elected. Nobody knows what he is, except that he is Governor elect. Our folks elected nobody but Mott, and the rascally Know-Nothings did that. Very few Democrats went to the polls."

"ALBANY, N. Y., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Seymour is elected elect. If all our party had voted, and there had been a few more run drinkers, he would certainly have beat Clark and Ullman. Few Democrats went to the polls."

"MILWAUKEE, WIS., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: We do know in Wisconsin. Our friends didn't go to the polls."

"TRENTON, N. J., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Bad day—very wet. Democrats didn't turn out. Afraid of the weather."

"DETROIT, MICH., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Great mistake made by our party. They thought the election was next year, and didn't go to the polls. Beaten, of course, but the election will be contested!"

"WILMINGTON, DEL., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Sorry to say we are nowhere this time—better luck next time, if the Democrats will only turn out. Few Democrats went to the polls."

"BOSTON, MASS., —, 1854.

"DEAR UNION: Election passed off quietly; returns so far not reliable, but supposed a Webster Whig is elected Governor. There are no Know-Nothings in Massachusetts, and the ad-

ministration party have gone to Kansas and Nebraska!"

So after all, the result of the late elections is no test (is it?) of the strength of the Democratic administration party, who were simply beaten because they did not go to the polls!

Just so in Cincinnati—"not a prominent Democrat is on the ground!" But the Union will find, to its deep chagrin, that whether its correspondents shut up in the editor's room, at Washington, have discovered any Democrats in the convention at Cincinnati or not, they are there, as we happen to know!

Now really, is the Union so credulous as to suppose it can make any men of common sense believe, by such shameful misrepresentations, that there are no Democrats in our organization, and that our party is led or managed by Whigs?

Such tomfoolery will not persuade the masses that the American party is the Whig party in disguise, nor prevent their adopting sentiments which are engraven upon every true American heart.

Are there no Democrats in our ranks? Who, then, carried the elections in Baltimore, the late Gibraltar of Democracy? Who carried the elections in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware, &c., where, at former elections, the Democrats had the ascendancy? Where are the Democrats of these States? Where? They have abandoned the present dynasty, and now form the American party!

Corruption of Party Leaders.

We have frequently expressed the opinion that the astonishing success of the American party was, in a measure, due to the conviction now so generally entertained by the people, that both of the old parties had become thoroughly demoralized, and were controlled by a set of selfish, scheming intriguers. The fact itself is becoming more and more apparent every day, and is even admitted by those who bitterly oppose our cause and cling tenaciously to their old idols. The Valley Democrat, one of the staunchest party papers, published in Virginia, speaking of the prominent Democratic leaders in that State, is forced to make the following acknowledgment:

"Never, perhaps, in the history of our party in this State has such bitter animosities existed in regard to men,—or such wire-working and intriguing to foil upon the party the favorites of factions and sections. Such conduct, in our opinion, has brought the party to the verge of defeat and ruin, and must inevitably seriously obstruct the harmony of the nominating Convention. Leaders have become ambitious and corrupt. They look more to their own promotion than they do to the welfare of the party."

Defalcation of a Government Officer.

A telegraphic despatch to the New York Advertiser, dated Cleveland, November 23, says: "The investigation by the agent of the Treasury Department shows a defalcation by ex-collector Russell, of this port, to the extent of \$100,000, in duties not accounted for."

Russell was indicted for this embezzlement last spring, and recently deposited with the United States district attorney securities to the extent of about \$80,000.

This is probably but the beginning of the end. Most of the administration appointments were of so wretched a character, that we may reasonably expect to see Mr. Russell's example very generally followed.

Railroad Accident.

The late accident on the Harlem railroad is represented to have been occasioned by the gross carelessness of the officers of the road. Fortunately no lives were lost, but nearly thirty persons were very seriously injured, many of them having their limbs horribly fractured. The following statement was derived from one of the passengers who was on the cars when the accident occurred:

"I left Harlem this morning at six o'clock in the accommodation train. We went at the usual speed until we got as far as Fifty-third street. At this point I heard the engineer's whistle to put on the brakes, and immediately saw Mr. Cummings, the conductor, take hold of the brakes. He made about three turns, when I heard a tremendous crash, and the next thing I can remember is finding myself about ten feet from where I sat at the time of the collision, thrown among all the other passengers in this car. I was sitting in the first seat of the first car, and had a little boy on my lap. His leg was broken, as was also that of another little boy who sat beside me. As soon as I was able to extricate myself from the other passengers, I broke one of the windows with my elbow and got out of the car."

"I then commenced to get the remainder of the passengers out of the wrecked car. Several of those that I helped to extricate were severely wounded, some of them having their legs and arms broken. On looking around after getting the remainder of the passengers out of the car, I saw that the tender of our train had been driven into the car I sat in about ten feet, and that our locomotive had been greatly damaged. On the same track with our train was a freight train, which came from New Haven, which was travelling very slow at the time of the collision, and before our train could be stopped we had run into the last car, completely demolishing it. The second last car of the freight train was much shattered. The wounded were carried into a house corner of Fifty-third street and Fourth avenue, where medical aid was soon received and the sufferers were partially relieved. I counted about seventeen persons that were wounded and bruised, most of whom had their legs broken. I fortunately received no injury, which is, indeed, miraculous, as I was in the first seat and was knocked back fully ten feet by the tender being driven through the car; and although all the passengers around me were severely injured, I received only a slight bruise on the lower part of my leg."

To those persons in the South, who either ignorantly or maliciously assert that the American party is at taint with Abolitionism, we commend the following from a late number of the National Era. The truth is, that Know-Nothingism—to use the cant phrase of the day—is the deadliest foe that anti-slavery fanaticism has ever encountered. The future will verify the truth of this assertion:

"Of the future of the new party we cannot, of course, speak with any degree of confidence. One thing, however, seems certain. With its southern affiliations, and slaveholding wing, it cannot be relied upon as the party of Freedom. Among its prominent supporters are reckoned Milford Fillmore, black with the infamy of the Fugitive Slave Bill, and John M. Clayton, of Delaware, who in a late speech lays down, as a plank of its national platform, the Nebraska doctrine of Pierce and Douglas. These are not favorable indications. With the kindest feelings towards those of our friends who have connected themselves with the new party, we must, for ourselves, stand apart from its portals of mystery, and retain our old faith in the Democracy of the New Testament and the Brotherhood of Man."

A REVOLUTIONARY FASHIONER.—Levi Hanford, a revolutionary pensioner, died in New York on the 20th instant, in the 96th year of his age.

In February, 1777, he was taken prisoner by the British and confined in the old "angar house" at New York for about nine months, when he was removed to the prison-ship "Good Intent," where he remained about six months, when he was exchanged and set at liberty.

Political Calypso.

In every community there is a class of individuals who gain their livelihood by tricks, low cunning, spunging, and other disreputable expedients. Our city, being the political centre of the Union, is infested with a number of this class, and, strange to say, they are the peculiar friends of the present administration, and profess to be the authorized exponents of the sayings and doings of the President and his Cabinet. So well have they been fed by the political crib that, with every morning's dawn, an additional name is added to the list of these unpunished political culprits. These disgusting devices are deemed by certain administration functionaries as rare accomplishments, fitting the individuals for positions of honor, trust, and profit. Some have been provided for, others are anxiously waiting, and a few are being initiated into the corrupt workings of these devices, through the instrumentality of certain heads of departments and clerks, so that, by the coming first of December, they may be prepared for new associations, be so thoroughly divested and freed from all moral restraint, and cleansed of all honorable principle, that they will be fully competent to compete with those whom nature never blessed with either morality or virtue, for the "loaves and fishes" which may be then distributed.

The above we base upon facts well known in this community. We could point the reader to more than one department where just such individuals may be found, who owe their position to treachery, deception—aye, more—perjury. Good men, faithful officers, American citizens, who have grown grey in the service of their country, have been ruthlessly ejected from office, that these creatures of nondescript principles might be rewarded. Then, why be amazed at the spirit and progress of the American party? Do not the exigencies of the time demand it? Does not the government need its renovating and purifying influence? Shall there be no end to corruption and demagoguism? There comes but one response—an emphatic and hearty response—aye!

A Gross Outrage.

The last Frederick (Md.) Examiner gives the following account of the successful escape of a young lady from the clutches of priestly tyranny:

"Miss Josephine Buckley, a novice, who had not completed her probation, escaped from the sisterhood at Emmelburg, about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 12th instant. She is the daughter of Joseph Buckley, Esq., of Norfolk, Virginia, a Protestant, who took her under his protection through this city, on Wednesday last, on their way home. The circumstances of Miss Buckley's unlawful detention and escape therefrom, as detailed to several of our citizens by her father, were as follows: Since becoming a novice, she has been doing duty at St. Joseph's Seminary as a teacher of music, &c., for the last ten months. Some months since, however, the repented of her connexion with the sisterhood, expressed a desire to return to her home, and wrote to her father to that effect. That letter was torn up before her eyes, and she was compelled to write in a different strain, declaring her satisfaction and contentment with her lot."

"This last-mentioned letter deceived her father; while the deception was confirmed by having all his letters to his daughter returned unopened. Aware, at length, that she was a prisoner, Miss Buckley determined to escape, and, on the morning above named, succeeded in effecting her liberty, by climbing through a sash over a door, and thence into the yard. Her movements were overheard by the watchmen, whose vigilance she eluded by concealing herself behind a tree. As soon as the watchman turned away, she fled—alone, a stranger, in the night, and dressed in her novice's habit and black cap, this poor terrified girl escaped over the rough country, ten weary miles to the village of Croagertown: where, on inquiring for the stage house, she was directed to Stevens's hotel. She immediately made known the circumstances of her case to Mr. Charles Stevens, the landlord, and demanded his protection, which was promptly accorded, and in Miss Grimes, a relative of Mr. Stevens, she found a faithful and gentle confidant and friend. Her next step was to write to her father, who, upon the receipt of her letter, came without a moment's delay to her rescue. Miss B. is about 18 years of age, a very accomplished and beautiful young lady, speaking several languages, and a superior musician."

If the facts here stated are true, the father of this young lady owes it as a duty to society to have the whole matter brought before the courts of justice. The perpetrators of so gross an outrage should not be allowed to escape unpunished. It is high time the Romish priesthood were taught that this is a free country, and that any attempt on their part to abridge the personal liberty of an American citizen, will be visited with the severest penalties of the law. They should be made to understand that we are not yet the slaves of papal despotism, and that outrages which would probably be applauded in Spain or Italy, will not be tolerated on American soil.

We trust this matter will be thoroughly investigated by a judicial tribunal, not only from a desire to see the guilty punished, but because it may lead to the exposure of other enormities, and to the probable relief of other victims of oppression. If Miss Buckley was placed in duress and illegally deprived of her liberty, it is fair to presume that there are other young ladies in a like situation. At this very moment some poor girl may be subjected to the most cruel barbarities, and may be daily and hourly watching for an opportunity to escape from the clutches of her tyrants. Such a thing is by no means improbable, if the facts connected with this outrage have not been grossly exaggerated. At all events, now that the statement has gone forth to the public, the whole affair should be thoroughly probed, and the hidden mysteries of these spiritual jails be brought to light.

If an offence against our laws has been committed, then the guilty should be punished. If, on the other hand, the accusation originated in malice, and has no substantial foundation, then it is equally proper that the parties accused should be relieved from the suspicion of such infamous conduct.

It is a matter of no concern to us, should every Catholic girl in the country choose to immerse herself within the walls of a convent—but if any one of them is detained there against her wishes and by forcible means, then we have a right to protest against such tyranny, and to invoke for her the sacred protection of our laws.

Embezzlement by a Baltimore Post Office Clerk.

A despatch from Baltimore, dated yesterday, says: "William H. Martin, who had been the principal distributing clerk in the post office of this city, for the last twenty years, has been detected in robbing the letters passing through his hands of the money they contained. He was detected through the agency of a decoy letter, and, on his house being searched, the letter and the money it contained was found."

"His salary was a thousand dollars per annum, and his house being furnished in the most extravagant way, and his living in the manner and style in which he did, has excited the suspicion that these depredations most probably had been going on for several years past."

This gentleman, it seems, has really consented to deliver a lecture before the Anti-slavery society of Boston; but, before accepting the invitation, he addressed the following letter to Dr. Stone:

"INDEPENDENCE, 14th Sept., 1854.
"DEAR SIR: I have received your favor of the 29th ult., and though greatly pressed for time, owing to the many business letters which I have to write, I am happy to respond."

"I have every disposition to visit Boston at the time which you propose, if my duties in the Senate will permit. Before accepting the invitation so kindly tendered, I am desirous to know whether the lecturer is or will be at liberty to give free expression of his own opinions on the subject of slavery, or whether he is to be restricted to any particular set of opinions. These inquiries are all made because I am no ultra, but a constitutional conservative."

"Thine truly,
"SAM ROUSTON."

"TO JAMES W. SPENCER, M. D."
"To this Dr. Stone replied: 'The lecturer will be at liberty to give free expression of his opinion on the subject of slavery.'"

The Father Brady Case.

The Providence Journal publishes the following letter from the Right Rev. Bernard O'Reilly, Romanist bishop at Hartford, in explanation of the circumstances which have caused so much excitement in that city. In compliance with the request of the bishop, and in a desire to do injustice to no one, we willingly give place to his letter. It certainly relieves him from a part of the odium which before attached to him, and it is only to be regretted that he has not explained his reason for removing Father Brady, in as satisfactory manner, as he has succeeded in exonerating himself from the charge of denying christian burial to the deceased. The public also would like to be informed how it is that the bishop has suddenly become the owner of the church, when, but a few days before, it was covered by a mortgage of \$20,000 which was held by Father Brady. Upon these points, however, the bishop probably finds it most prudent to preserve a discreet silence:

To the Editor of the Journal:

As you have copied a most libellous and unfair statement in my regard, you will permit me to put myself and others right in the matter. I was not, in the first place, asked to give a burial place in front of the church to the remains of Rev. Mr. Brady.

2dly. The church fronts on the street, within a few feet of the sidewalk; the space intervening was never intended for a burial place, neither is there a burial place in connection with the church.

3dly. The Rev. Mr. Brady died possessed of a burial ground, where I had a right to expect his interment, unless informed of his desire to the contrary.

4thly. It is a well-known fact that Rev. Mr. Brady's request to be buried in the church "until about seven o'clock on the day of his interment."

5thly. There is no railing in front of the church, and none contemplated to be there; consequently, the place was unfit for a burial place, as any enclosure raised in front of the church would be much out of place, and detract greatly from the appearance of the church.

6thly. The church at Hartford belongs to me; it cost something over \$40,000. I had to assume its entire debt, about \$27,000, the balance was paid by the people; consequently, if any friend of the deceased wished his interment there, I should have been informed of it.

7thly. Had I been informed in season of the so-called request of the deceased to be interred "near the church," I would, at once, have directed his interment in the church, which would, in the case, have been the proper place.

You will observe, then, 1st, that I was not consulted as to the interment of Rev. Mr. Brady by the mover, or movers, in the matter. 2dly, that these movers selected a place most unfit, and never intended as a burial place; and 3dly, that they selected it without consulting the proprietor of the place, selected for the interment.

These are facts that cannot be set aside, and these facts show that I have been greatly misrepresented, and that some editors have permitted themselves to be imposed on by the fabricators of the marvellous.

I removed the deceased from the pastoral charge of the congregation last July, for reasons which justified me so far as to leave me no other alternative but to resign. Could I have justified myself before conscience in again restoring him to the charge of the same congregation, I would most cheerfully have done so, for I never entertained any personal ill-will towards the deceased. In season, I offered him another congregation, considering myself justified in doing so, as in a new place the same obstacles to his ministerial success would not exist as at Hartford.

I can find no ground for self-reproach in the matter; did a similar case occur again, I would be impelled to act as I did in this instance, unless I became willing to sacrifice conscience and betray the interests of religion.

As to the action of the people in the case, it was limited to a few, the chief of whom is a most worthless man, and was so considered by the people. While the congregation deplore action of a scandalous character on the part of any holding communion with them, they can congratulate themselves on the fact that the action of a few evil disposed persons, (and such may be found among every people,) cannot deprive them of their good name.

This is a true and full statement of the facts in the case, and I am concerned, and feel, will ever, with an enlightened people, outweigh assertion and libellous statement. The only favor I ask of those editors who have published statements from other quarters on this matter, or made comments based on these statements, injurious to me, is the publication of this article.

Respectfully yours,
BERNARD O'REILLY,
Bishop of Hartford.

Providence, Nov. 21, 1854.

The following official despatch from General Canrobert to the French Minister of War, details the operations of the siege up to date. It looks very much as if the allies had met with a serious repulse:

"BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Oct. 18, 1854.

"MONS. LE MARCILLAT: Yesterday at sunrise we opened a fire in concert with the English army, and matters were going on well, when the explosion of a powder magazine belonging to a battery, which, unhappily, was a large one, created some disturbance to our attack. This explosion had more effect, as our batteries were accumulated round the spot where it took place. The enemy took advantage of it to increase their fire, and after consulting the general commanding the artillery, I deemed it advisable to suspend our fire to repair our damage, and complete on our right, by new batteries nearer the English line, our system of attack."

"This delay certainly is much to be regretted; but cannot be helped, and I am taking every means to render it as short as possible. The city has withstood the fire much better than was expected. The engine, in its enormous development, in a straight line carrying all that it can receive in heavy calibre from the fleet, allows it to possess the position situated in front of the point of attack, called the *Mal Bastion*, and now occupy it. This evening we constructed there a masked battery of 12 guns, and if possible a second battery at the extreme right, above the *dedivite*.
"All our means of attack are concentrated on this position, and will, I hope, soon clear it, with the assistance of the English batteries, which take it in the left flank. Yesterday, about 10 a. m., the allied fleets attacked the exterior batteries of the place, but I have not yet received the report so as to enable me to give an account of the results of that attack. The English batteries are in the best possible condition; they have received nine new mortars, which will give great effect. Yesterday, in the battery which surrounds the tower, situated on the left of the tower, an immense explosion took place, which must have done great injury to the enemy, for since then the fire of that battery has been very slack, and this morning only a few guns were able to fire from it. I have no precise news of the Russian army. There is

nothing to indicate that it has modified the position in which it awaits reinforcements. I have received nearly all the infantry reinforcements I expected from Gallipoli and Varna. Gen. Le Vallant has just arrived with his staff only, which increases to five divisions of infantry the army I command. The health of the troops is very satisfactory, their moral condition excellent, and we are full of confidence."

ARRIVAL FROM EUROPE.

NEWS BROUGHT BY THE CANADIAN.

From the New York Herald.

The siege of Sebastopol still drags its slow length along, and almost all efforts made to anticipate a result by vivid descriptions of the desperate extremities to which the garrison is reduced, and even by rumors of its fall, these accounts seem to produce no corresponding effects on the English markets, their influence being rather unfavorable than otherwise.

There is nothing, in fact, in the present advice, made up as they are from the complement of the previous incidents of the siege, an outline which we have already laid before our readers, which indicates that the place may not still hold out until it is relieved. The highly-colored speculations of newspaper correspondents, and the mendacious statements of fabricated despatches, weigh but little against the fact that neither on the land side nor on that of the sea, have the besiegers as yet been able to penetrate within the line of the defences.

Thus far, then, the anticipations formed from the tremendous resources combined for the reduction of the fortress have been set at naught. It was on the prompt results expected to be achieved from their unprecedented magnitude that the calculations which led to the expedition were founded. Should these hopes be disappointed, and any considerable time be wasted before the place, a skillfully planned attack by a sufficiently powerful Russian force, supposing that their reserves can be brought up in time for the purpose, may at any time defeat the grand object of the expedition, and oblige the besiegers to assume the defensive.

The history of siege operations justifies us in doubting whether, in spite of the enormous siege material assembled by the allies, Sebastopol can be taken by force. Valencennes, in 1793, sustained a siege of fifty-five days, with only 175 cannon. Dantzig, in 1813, held out for 108 days, with 500 cannon, and then only yielded through the pressure of famine. Ciudad Rodrigo was defended by only 86 guns, and yet held out for twenty-one days. The Russians have at Sebastopol 1,600 cannon, and there are nearly all of large calibre. What probability is there, therefore, in speculating on the premature surrender of the garrison, buoyed up as they are by the hope of being speedily relieved?

It must be remembered, too, that the allies are only provisioned for six weeks, and that notwithstanding the alleged friendly disposition of the Tatar population, the descriptions forwarded home by English officers of their scanty fare show that this statement must either be false, or that the friendly feelings of the natives are controlled by their apprehensions of the doubtful nature of the contest. If, therefore, the place can only hold out a few weeks longer—and at present we see no reason why it should not—the Crimean expedition may possibly end in a total failure.

These are, of course, mere speculations, but they assume something of the force of the projected resistance which the fortress has already made, in spite of the confident anticipations formed by the commanders of the expedition of its reduction in three or four days. It would be curious if the "timid council," so injudiciously alluded to in the French Emperor's letter to Madame St. Arnaud, should, after all, turn out to have been suggested by correct views.

The statements made in these advices of the probability of an immediate rupture between the Car and his two powerful German neighbors probably only represent the surface of things. We shall believe in the fact when we see a Russian army advancing into Galicia. As to Prussia, she has too much to gain by remaining neutral, and her interest in provoking hostilities with the Car, have been the proper place.

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Bishop of Hartford.

Providence, Nov. 21, 1854.

The following official despatch from General Canrobert to the French Minister of War, details the operations of the siege up to date. It looks very much as if the allies had met with a serious repulse:

"BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Oct. 18, 1854.

"MONS. LE MARCILLAT: Yesterday at sunrise we opened a fire in concert with the English army, and matters were going on well, when the explosion of a powder magazine belonging to a battery, which, unhappily, was a large one, created some disturbance to our attack. This explosion had more effect, as our batteries were accumulated round the spot where it took place. The enemy took advantage of it to increase their fire, and after consulting the general commanding the artillery, I deemed it advisable to suspend our fire to repair our damage, and complete on our right, by new batteries nearer the English line, our system of attack."

"This delay certainly is much to be regretted; but cannot be helped, and I am taking every means to render it as short as possible. The city has withstood the fire much better than was expected. The engine, in its enormous development, in a straight line carrying all that it can receive in heavy calibre from the fleet, allows it to possess the position situated in front of the point of attack, called the *Mal Bastion*, and now occupy it. This evening we constructed there a masked battery of 12 guns, and if possible a second battery at the extreme right, above the *dedivite*.
"All our means of attack are concentrated on this position, and will, I hope, soon clear it, with the assistance of the English batteries, which take it in the left flank. Yesterday, about 10 a. m., the allied fleets attacked the exterior batteries of the place, but I have not yet received the report so as to enable me to give an account of the results of that attack. The English batteries are in the best possible condition; they have received nine new mortars, which will give great effect. Yesterday, in the battery which surrounds the tower, situated on the left of the tower, an immense explosion took place, which must have done great injury to the enemy, for since then the fire of that battery has been very slack, and this morning only a few guns were able to fire from it. I have no precise news of the Russian army. There is

nothing to indicate that it has modified the position in which it awaits reinforcements. I have received nearly all the infantry reinforcements I expected from Gallipoli and Varna. Gen. Le Vallant has just arrived with his staff only, which increases to five divisions of infantry the army I command. The health of the troops is very satisfactory, their moral condition excellent, and we are full of confidence."

ARRIVAL FROM EUROPE.